Remarks/Arguments

This communication is considered fully responsive to the non-final Office action mailed February 18, 2004. Claims 1-74 were examined. Claims 1-4, 6-9, 11-13, 15-18, 20, 43, 45-47, 53-61, 63, 64, 67-69, 71, and 73 stand rejected.

In the summary, claims 5, 10, 14, 19, 44, 62, 66, 70, and 72 are indicated as being allowable, and claims 21-42, 48-52, and 74 are indicated as being objected to. Applicant believes the indication is reversed in the summary and is correct in the detailed action. In the detailed action claims 21-42, 48-52, and 74 are indicated as being allowable and claims 5, 10, 14, 19, 44, 62, 66, 70, and 72 are indicated as being objected to as depending from rejected base claims, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Therefore, Applicant's response is based on the indication in the detailed action, i.e., claims 21-42, 48-52, and 74 are allowed and claims 5, 10, 14, 19, 44, 62, 66, 70, and 72 recite allowable subject matter.

Claims 1, 12, 43, 53, 63, and 69 are amended to include subject matter indicated as being allowable. Claims 2-9 and 11 depend from claim 1; claims 13, 15-20 depend from claim 12; claims 45-47 depend from claim 43; claims 54-61 depend from claim 53; claims 64-65 and 67-68 depend from claim 63; and claims 70-71 and 73 depend from claim 69. These claims depend from allowable independent claims and therefore are also believed to be allowable. Claim 28 is amended to improve the form of the claim.

Claims 10, 14, 44, 62, 66, and 72 are canceled without prejudice to the subject matter contained therein.

The Applicant respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this matter.

Respectfully Submitted,

ted: 4/28/04

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16